United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

2010 Ranking Period 2

Soil Erosion Enhancement Activity – SOE02 - Protection of cultural resource

Enhancement Description
Stabilization and protection of identified cultural resource and/or historic properties with vegetation to prevent damage from erosion and loss of cultural and historic deposits, including associated artifacts.

Land Use Applicability
Cropland, pastureland, rangeland and forestland.

Benefits
Culturally important and historic sites can be damaged by erosion. Historic and prehistoric cultural deposits, including associated artifacts and features can be lost or destroyed making later study or interpretation of the sites impossible. Revegetating these areas with conservation cover can protect the sites from further damage and loss of cultural and historic remains.

Criteria for Protection of Cultural Resources

1. Areas to be protected must be identified as a culturally significant or historic site and documented as such in one of the following ways:
   a. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)
   b. Determined eligible for listing on NRHP through Section 106 review (National Historic Preservation Act compliance).
   c. State government or Tribal government registry.
   d. State government or Tribal government inventory of historic places.
2. Areas must be protected from further degradation by revegetating with conservation covers that emphasize the use of native species that enhance fish and wildlife habitat including pollinator habitat.

Documentation Requirements

1. Documentation that the site meets one of the 4 criteria listed above.
2. A map or sketch showing the location and extent of the area that is protected.
3. Documentation of the plant species used for revegetation.

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Site eligibility will be confirmed by NRCS prior to scheduling this enhancement.

See Wisconsin Agronomy Technical Note 5 for seed mixes:
ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/WI/technotes/agronomy-tn5.pdf

Document methods used to establish cover and vegetation management activities.